UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/159
24 February 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a copy of two notes verbales with attachments dated 20 January and 3 February 1997 from the Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., to the Embassy of Pakistan, to be forwarded to the United States Department of State, on the violation of territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the forces of the United States in the Persian Gulf region.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annexes were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Majid TAKHT-RAVANCHI
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

97-04892 (E) 260297

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Annex I

Note verbale dated 20 January 1997 from the Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., addressed to the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington, D.C.

The Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., presents its compliments to the Embassy of Pakistan and has the honour to convey the attached message, in two copies, the original text and an unofficial translation, received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is respectfully requested that the original text be transmitted to the United States Department of State and that our office be informed of its response.

The Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the Embassy of Pakistan.

Appendix

According to information received from officials of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 29 September 1996 a United States warship at the position of N2840 and E5015 warned an Iranian helicopter (position N2830 and E5015) belonging to the Iranian Oil Company known as HTX, which was in flight from Bushehr to the Frouzan oil platform.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran protests these illegal activities by the United States Government and calls for an end to such actions.

Annex II

Note verbale dated 3 February 1997 from the Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., addressed to the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington, D.C.

The Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., presents its compliments to the Embassy of Pakistan and has the honour to convey the attached message, in two copies, the original text and an unofficial translation, received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is respectfully requested that the original text be transmitted to the United States Department of State and that our office be informed of its response.

The Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the Embassy of Pakistan.

Appendix

According to information received from officials of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, United States warships and helicopters positioned in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman created a nuisance for Iranian ships and vessels on the following dates:

1. On 9 December 1996, after the ship Iran-Shojaat left the Bander-e-Imam and Khour-e-Mussa region, it was inspected by a United States warship. At 1606 hours, United States warship number 895 contacted the ship Iran-Shojaat, ordered the ship to reduce its speed and directed the ship to the position of N2939 and E4918. Through a VHF radio channel it then inquired about the specific contents of the ship. Following a thorough investigation, the ship was then allowed to sail towards Bandar-e-Abbas.

2. On 8 January 1997 at 1100 hours, two United States helicopters positioned in Buoy 2 of Khour-e-Mussa Channel flew over the ship Iran-Matin, which was navigating from Bander-e-Imam Khomainy to Bandar-e-Abbas, and through a VHF channel ordered the ship to change its course towards Kuwait's waters. After the ship Iran-Matin contacted the control office in Bandar-e-Khark, it proceeded towards Bandar-e-Abbas.

3. On the same date, at 2125 hours, an American helicopter flew over the Iran-Tabriz oil tanker, which was leaving Buoy 6 of Khour-e-Mussa Channel, and ordered the ship to change its course. After the Iran-Tabriz oil tanker received a proper course to follow from Bandar-e-Khark, it sailed towards Bandar-e-Abbas.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran protests those illegal measures by the Government of the United States and calls for an end to such actions.